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favorable case for Germany in the event of a tariff war with the United States. In the first place, he says very truly, that the American government does not want such a war. He then affirms that the United States could damage German industries very little by raising her tariff rates, for these are for the most part practically prohibitive. Nor would the 20 per cent. reduction allowed by the Dingley bill be of an advantage equivalent to that which the United States would demand of Germany. In this respect all western continental Europe stands in the same economic relations to the United States as Germany. The discouraging situation leads him to recommend united European action, although in doing so he admits, almost in the same breath, the impossibility of such co-operation. These are his closing words:

Would Europe earnestly and effectively resist the extreme protective tariff policy of the United States, she must, so far as possible, remove her inter-state tariff barriers—not for the advantage of the United States but in order to render greater facility to the commerce of middle Europe. A universal high tariff should be applied against the United States to compel it to abolish its Chinese tariff wall. Every other tactic favors the exclusion policy, not only of the United States, but also by direct reaction the same policy in Europe itself.

Taken as a whole, the book is written in a fair, judical, and scientific spirit, and gives us a valuable summary of the present economic and legal relations between the United States and Germany.

GEORGE M. FISK.

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Die gewerbliche Genossenschaften Belgiens. By JOSEPH BOWJANSKY.

[Schmoller's Staats- und socialwissenschaftliche Forschungen, XVIII. 3.] Leipsic: Duncker & Humblot, 1900. 8vo, pp. viii + 93.

THIS laborious but ill-written chronicle of consumers' and producers' co-operation in Belgium is valuable chiefly as a "Material-sammlung." The youthful struggles of industrial co-operation in Belgium—the author does not consider co-operation in agriculture or credit co-operation—while interesting enough in themselves, are highly unsuggestive to the American reader. The peculiar influences which have surrounded the Belgian movement, the frank and vigorous opposition of manufacturers and of retail dealers which has resulted in

restriction of the right of certain classes of co-operative stores to sell to non-members, the use of co-operative stores as a device for political agitation, and the distinctive Belgian ways of economic and social thinking, combine to give the Belgian movement such a distinctive character as to render comparisons with other countries of little value. Moreover, the Belgian movement is still too undeveloped to justify much induction further than that in Belgium, as in other countries, consumers' co-operation shows some vitality, while producers' co-operation has usually failed.

When the author rises above the rôle of chronicler—as in his excellent discussion of classifications of various forms of co-operation or in his suggestion that consumers' co-operation and state ownership may supplement one another, the state assuming such industries as it deems specially suited to nationalization, and consumers organizing those industries which correspond to their special needs—his ideas are probably suggested less by Belgian experience than by consideration of the writings of Mrs. Webb, Professor Gide, and Professor Herkner.

Consumers' co-operation in Belgium is of three types: co-operative pharmacies founded by benefit societies, co-operative stores conducted by government officials, and partisan co-operative stores, nurtured by political parties for political ends. The co-operative stores of government officials are restricted in their development by a ministerial prohibition of sales to non-members, but even within these limits the membership of the stores is small, owing chiefly to the indifference of the officials to co-operation. Most of the co-operative stores are partisan organizations frankly designed to gain support for the ruling Catholic party or for the rapidly growing minority of socialists. Both sides regard co-operation chiefly as means to a political end. The Catholics establish their stores where they most need to win votes from the socialists, and usually where a socialist co-operative store already exists. The socialistic stores are more numerous and successful. From the socialist's standpoint, consumers' co-operation, while a higher form of industry, is by no means a direct mode of reform of capitalistic industry. The socialists value their co-operative stores rather as effective centers of influence, and by their financial profits as means of direct financial support to the socialist propaganda.

One may note two devices adopted by some of these socialist stores for increasing trade: payment of dividends in the form of orders

which must be used in further purchases, and the offering of small pensions, also in the form of orders, to members of long standing. The amount of this pension varies with the amount of the pensioner's previous purchases. Under these various impulses consumers' co-operation in Belgium has gradually become more prominent during the last twenty years, but the movement is still small; most of the co-operative stores are nothing more than co-operative bakeries, and much of the moderate measure of success which has been attained is the result of political rather than of economic motives.

None of the groups of co-operative stores in Belgium have as yet established "wholesales" or factories of their own. Instances of producers' co-operation are confined to little independent associations of workmen, and these have proved as incapable of development in Belgium as in the United States. Such co-operative associations of producers as do not fail may either continue as co-operative associations or transform themselves into capitalistic stock companies. In the latter event co-operation has served the valuable purpose of enabling workmen to become small capitalists, but no Belgian venture in producers' co-operation has ever enjoyed enough success to tempt its members to this transformation. The author records some thirty-two scattering attempts at producers' co-operation in Belgium during the last ten years. All the statistics of co-operation in Belgium are incomplete, but it is certain that not more than four of these attempts existed before 1890. Twelve have already failed, and those still existing do not appear to afford a greater reward than ordinary wages to their members, and are altogether in a state of tentative vitality. The author's estimate of the prospects of such producers' co-operation is wholesome for any who still persist, in the face of American and English experience, in viewing such ventures of little bands of workmen with the lively hopes of fifty years ago. Without denying the possibility of occasional success, especially within the field offered by industries which require little capital, Mr. Bowjansky concludes that producers' co-operation is generally foredoomed to failure unless the venture be started on a sufficiently large scale, and with sufficient capital to enjoy from the outset the latest technical improvements, and in this respect to compete on equal terms with the best equipped private businesses in the same industry. Even though an association of co-operative producers overcomes the dangers of inefficient organization and management and of uncertainty in its

body of customers, so long as it lacks efficient technical appliances it simply adds one to the group of small industries already doomed by their inefficient methods of production. Further, the hope that a little association, starting with inefficient methods, may persist long enough to acquire by its savings more efficient appliances is apt to prove as illusory as a hope that a cobbler may become, through his savings, the owner of a shoe factory. Exceptional instances aside, the path of progress for this form of producers' co-operation has proved a blind alley.

MORTON A. ALDRICH.

Die Entwicklung der Arbeitsteilung im Leipziger Gewerbe von 1751 bis 1890. Von DR. OTTO PETRENZ. (Staats- und socialwissenschaftliche Forschungen. Herausgegeben von Gustav Schmoller. Band XIX. Heft 2.) Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot, 1901. 8vo, pp. 92.

IN this work the author attempts to show the progress made in the division of labor by an examination of the various occupations listed in the successive editions of the Leipzig city directory from 1751-1890. In the former year there appeared 118 industrial occupations, in the course of 140 years no less than 554 new occupations emerged, while during the same period 115 became obsolete, leaving in 1890 557 still existing. By far the most rapid progress was made in the period 1860-1890, when 295 new occupations came into being. This is attributed to the Saxon legislation of 1861, which granted freedom of occupation and removed the last of the old gild restrictions. The author examines in detail the nature of these changes, showing the origin of each new industry and the reason for its differentiation. In this he follows a somewhat modified form of the classification made by Bücher in his *Entstehung der Volkswirtschaft*.

The study shows careful work and presents many interesting features. It is, however, questionable whether the original material is sufficiently exact to justify the work, for, of course, the information in the directories was not gathered on any scientific principle. The author frankly admits the imperfection of the material and perhaps one should regret the labor spent in elaborating material to a degree of accuracy exceeding that possessed by the original data.

H. R. HATFIELD.